(Amravati) Taluka close to the Malghat Tiger Sanctuary in Maharashtra during the years 1991-92 and so far in 1993;

(b) what are the main reasons for death of these adivasi children; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to check the exploitation of children by outside forces and to remove poverty and backwardness among the Adivasi tribal in this remote region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU):

(a) As per information received from the Government of Maharashtra, the number of deahts of tribal children in Dharni Taluka close to Melghat Tiger Sanctuary in Amravati District of Maharashtra was 180 in 1991, 181 in 1992 and 177 in 1993 upto 10th September; 1993. These figures relate to the months of July-August and September; and include still births.

(b) The main reasons for the situation as reported by the Government of Maharashtra are as follows:-

1. Early marriages.
2. Teenage pregnancey and deliveries.
3. Short intervals between two pregnencieas.
4. Maternal malnutrition due to the above reasons.
5. Lack of antenatal and postnatal care.
6. Lack of adequate medical aid.

(c) Various steps have been taken in the sectors of administrative setup, employment guarantee, health coverage supplementary feeds etc. The details are as follows:—

(1) Strengthening of administration in selected I.T.D.P. blocks to ensure better coordination among the different development agenc working in the poject areas. N the project officer will be an I.A. officers.

(2) Assistance for supplementa food by way of supplying 1 quin of jowar, 25 k.g. tural and 25 of grams free of cost to the affec families.

(3) Distribution of supplement feed such as Sukhada or khichi alongwith Milk powder throu Anganwaries.

(4) Facility of food to the patie admitted to the Primary health c tres for treatment.

(5) Starting of Indoor facilities 7 Health Institutions and opening the temporary facility each for ind and outdoor patients.

(6) Medical survey of all the v lages in the area an complete imm nisation coverage.

(7) Deployment of specialist Me cal squad and establishment of te porary public health laboratory.

(8) Education in health a nutrition.

Representation for hike in Post Matric Scholarship fr SC/ST Stude

2278, DR. BAPU KALDATE: W the Minister of WELFARE be ple ed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that I Baba Saheb Ambedkar National sociation of Engineers, Bombay h in a representation requested Go rnment for hike in the Post-mat scholarship for SC/ST students;

(b) if so, what are the details the of;

(c) whether Government propc to make adequate incerase in t Post Matric Scholarship for SC/S students to enable them to purs their academic career considering t ever increasing rise in the prices a cost of living; and

(d) if so, the decision, if any; taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Association has suggested an increase in the rates of maintenance allowance for hostellers and dayscholars under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for SC and ST students to the extent of meeting the total cost of maintenance @ Rs. 1200/- per month.

(c) and (d) A proposal to increase the rates of maintenance allowance is under consideration in consultation with the Planning Commission.

Financial Assistance to States Implementing Prohibition

2279. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the states that are implementing prohibition;

(b) whether there if any assistance extended by the Central Government to those States;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard; and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there if any constitution obligation of the Centre in this regard and how it is executed

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU): (a) According to the information available, prohibition has been enforced in Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Mizoram, Nagaland & Lakshadweep (except in Bangaram Island). Partial prohibition has been enforced in Tamil Nadu. In Andhra Pradesh, a ban has been imposed on the sale of arrack in the entire State w.e.f. 1-10-1993.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As Prohibition is a State subject, it is for the State Governments to consider alternative sources of revenue for recauping the loss incurred on account of imposition of prohibition. In addition, on account of the severe constraints of resources for the developmental programmes being undertaken to improve the lot of the weeker sections and the vulnerable groups of the population, it is not possible on the parts of the Government of India to provide any compensation to the State Governments for introduction of prohibition.

(d) Article 47 of the Constitution provides that the State shall endervour to bring about prohibition in the Country. However, since production, manufacture possessing, transport, purchase and sale of the intexicating liquors faill within the jurisdiction of the State Governments, it is for the State Governments to take appropriate steps in this direction. On its part, the Central Government serves to act as a catalyst in persuading the State Governments to take up measures for imposition of prohibition in the States. In this regard, detailed guidelines stipulating immediate and long-term steps to be taken for enforcement of prohibition have been issued to the State Governments in 1975 and 1978. Also, the Central Governments has launched a massive awareness generation programme to educate people about the ill-effects of alcoholism through various media.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE. BUSINESS FOR THE DAY

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to make an announcement. I have to inform Members that lunch hour today will be from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. I had a meeting with the leaders of the various political parties and groups; and Private Members' legislative business will be taken up froth 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. The Prime Minister; in connection with the GATT agreement vis-a-vis your demands; will come to the House thereafter.

AN HON. MEMBER: Time?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: At